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| **Agenda item: ADM 1** | **Document C23/94-E** |
| **27 June 2023** |
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| Contribution from Algeria (People's Democratic Republic of), Saudi Arabia (Kingdom of), Bahrain (Kingdom of), Egypt (Arab Republic of), United Arab Emirates, Kuwait (State of), Morocco (Kingdom of), South Africa (Republic of) and Tunisia | |
| GENERATION OF REVENUE FOR THE ITU | |
| **Purpose**  This contribution discusses the urgent need for the ITU to have clear plans to generate new revenue sources that help the Union to have sustainable and balanced budget, to be able to implement the Resolutions of its conferences, and to keep pace with continuous development in Telecommunications/ICTs. In this regard, we propose some actions which could help to generate new sources of revenue.  **Action required by the Council**  The council is invited **to consider** this contribution and **take the necessary action** accordingly.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **References**  [Resolution 158](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Documents/basic-texts-2023/RES-158-E.pdf) (Rev. Busan, 2014) of the Plenipotentiary Conference, Document [C22/INF/13-E](https://www.itu.int/md/S22-CL-INF-0013/en). | |

# Overview

The International Telecommunication Union’s (ITU) expenses had exceeded the assigned budget for a number of years and ITU’s response is to cut costs. ITU has been focusing more on reducing expenses than expanding the Union’s revenue streams and withdrawing from the reserve account to cover extra costs. Revenue sources has not changed according to previous budget reports. These reports indicate that the main source of revenue is from member state contributions which constitute the majority of the allocated budget of each year with 80% of the 2022 actual budget. As an international organization, ITU should have plans on finding new ways to fund the Union and to fulfil its mandates and responsibilities.

During Council 2022 and in the context of the elaboration of the Financial Plan 2024-2027, the Secretary General presented ([C22/INF/13-E](https://www.itu.int/md/S22-CL-INF-0013/en)) which is outcomes of the World Café. World café is initiative by the Coordination Committee to collect ideas on ways to generate revenue, reduce expenses, and balance the Financial Plan, with representatives of the three bureaux and the General Secretariat.

# Discussion

The Union should find a stable revenue stream to help fund the rising development in the field of ICTs. Without adequate funding the ITU, as United Nation specialized agency for ICTs, will straggle to accommodate the development in the ICT industry. There are also concerns about implementing and executing Resolutions of the main ITU conferences (including PP) due to insufficient funding.

As per Resolution 158 (Rev. Busan, 2014) on Financial issues for consideration by the Council, it instructs the Secretary-General to “*study possible new measures to generate additional revenue for ITU*”, there should be clear plans that generate new revenue sources and to enhance investments. The ITU, as united nation specialized agency for ICTs, enjoys many competitive advantages which could improve its financial budget such as providing consulting and other related services in the field telecommunications/ICTs, or leveraging its intellectual property rights.

In addition, we acknowledge that the ITU World Café has been productive with providing proposals on how to generate additional revenue streams, and it is important that the discussion of ITU World Café on finding new ways to generate revenue continues and the proposals are further studied.

# Proposal

Taken into consideration the discussion above, we kindly request the Secretariat General to utilize the outcomes of the ITU World Café on revenue generation ([C22/INF/13-E](https://www.itu.int/md/S22-CL-INF-0013/en)), to study possible new measures to generate additional revenue for ITU, and to provide updates on these matters on the upcoming Council session, while continuing the efforts to prioritize areas of expenditure.

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